(b) Details of the economic cost of wheat and rice for the years 2003-04, 2004-05 and 2005-06 are as under:—

Year	Economic cost (Rs./Qtl)	
	Wheat	Rice
2003-04 2004-	918.69	1236.09
05 (P) 2005-06	1049.59*	1329.59*
(RE)	1030.81	1334.46

(P)— Provisional. (RE)—Revised Estimates.

* Includes expenditure of Rs. 39.86 per qtl. in respect of wheat and Rs. 41.95 per qtl. in respect of rice on account of payment of past years' arrears to the State Governments on account of finalisation of procurement incidentals of past years.

(C) No, Sir.

(d) The quantity of foodgrains sold by the Food Corporation of India (FCI) under Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS) and Open Market Sale Scheme (OMSS) from 2003-04 to 2005-06 is as under:—

(In lakh tonnes)

Year	TPDS		OMSS	
	Rice	Wheat	Rice*	Wheat
2003-04	115.29	94.19	-	9.82
2004-05	137.74	111.62	-	2.42
2005-06#	143.00	112.00	-	10.00

*No open sale of rice is undertaken.

#Figures for 2005-06 include projected offtake upto March, 2006.

Offtake of foodgrains

*16. SHRI T.T.V. DHLNAKARAN: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the offtake of foodgrains meant for BPL families has been less than the allocation during the last three years;

(b) if so, whether the issue price is the major reason; and

(c) whether Government would consult the States and fix mutually-agreed issue prices for foodgrains to increase offtake?

THE MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) The allocation and offtake of foodgrains for Below Poverty Line (BPL) families during the last three years was as follows:—

	Allocation (in lakh tonnes)	Offtake (in lakh tonnes)	% Offtake
2002-2003	268.98	172.62	64.18
2003-2004	271.05	199.68	73.67
2004-2005	273.30	228.45	83.59

The offtake of foodgrains depends upon various factors like local availability of foodgrains, prevalent market prices, food preferences of local people, etc. It is, therefore, normally less than cent percent. However, taking an overview for the entire country, the offtake for BPL families is considered to be satisfactory as it is more than 70% for the last two years.

(b) No, Sir. Offtake of foodgrains has increased both in absolute quantities and in terms of percentage to allocation in the last three years.

(c) The views of States are taken into account while fixing the CIPs.

Reduction in prices of anti-cancer drugs

*17. SHRI VIJAY J. DARDA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have recently suggested to the pharmaceutical industry to reduce the prices of anti-cancer drugs for the benefit of the poor cancer patients;

(b) if so, their response thereto; and

(c) if answer to part (b) above be in the negative what remedial action Government propose to take in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. ANBUMANI RAMDOSS): (a) to (c) The Department of Chemicals & Petrochemicals conducted a meeting on 13.12.05, which was attended by some of the leading manufacturers of cancer medicines,